giving Rs. 10 lakh for setting up of the courts and Rs. 5 lakh each as recurring expenses. That is given by the Centre. Apart from that, for infrastructure facility, the Centre is giving, as per sharing basis, half of the amount for some of the projects which have been set up or which have been given by the States. These are the ways in which the Centre is doing.

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government are aware of the widespread corruption in the subordinate courts in our country. If so, what steps have been taken to root out corruption from the courts? And, what is the number of court officials who have been removed on corruption charges during the last five years?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, the hon. Member's supplementary does not flow from this question. Of course, corruption is a very grave issue and the Department of Justice...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The matter does not come under the scope of the question. Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Growth of core sector industries

*186. DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth of six core sector industries sharply declined to 2.6 per cent in July, 2003 as compared to 10.2 per cent in July, 2002;

(b) if so, whether between April and July, 2003, the infrastructure sector grew by 3.6 per cent as compared to 7.2 per cent in 2002;

(c) whether this was core sector's worst performance since September, 2C 02, when it grew by 1.7 per cent;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) to what extent this core sector has been able to increase its growth during 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information available up to October, 2003, the overall growth in six infrastructure industries month-wise since September, 2002 was as indicated in the parenthesis: September, 2002 (2.2 percent), October, 2002 (6.7 per cent), November, 2002 (3.3 per cent), December, 2002 (4.2 per cent), January, 2003 (4.1 percent), February, 2003 (3.9 per cent), March, 2003 (3.1 per cent), April, 2003 (3.9 per cent), May, 2003 (4.0 per cent), June, 2003 (4.7 per cent), July, 2003 (2.6 per cent), August, 2003 (3.8 per cent), September, 2003 (5.9 per cent) and October, 2003 (3.0 per cent).

(d) and (e) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion compiles performance of six infrastructure industries, which include crude petroleum, petroleum refinery products, coal, electricity, cement and finished steel and account for a weight of 26.7 per cent in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). On a cumulative basis the overall growth in the six infrastructure industries during April-October, 2003 was 3.9 per cent.

The growth rate in July, 2003 is lower partly owing to the statistical effect of a very high growth rate in the base period, *i.e.* 10.2 per cent growth in July, 2002. There has been growth in overall production of six infrastructure industries though at a slower rate. The production during the first half of the current year has exceeded targets, except in power and steel, which also were close to the target being 96.1 per cent and 97 per cent of target respectively.

Objectionable advertisements on T.V.

*188. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps his Ministry and the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) are taking under the Cable TV Regulation Act and the code prescribed by the ASCI in order to check the menace of objectionable advertisements on TV channels;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently a meeting was held between the ASCI and his Ministry to deal with this issue; and